

Message Text

SECRET

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, SHUM, ECON, RP

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - PHILIPPINES

TO : EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/PHL - JOHN C. MONJO

1. AMBASSADOR MURPHY'S CONSULTATIONS (SECRET)

AMBASSADOR MURPHY'S FINAL WEEK OF CONSULTATIONS WAS HIGH-
LIGHTED BY A CALL MAY 29 IN NEW YORK ON FONSEC ROMULO (AT
SSOD) AND A SUBSEQUENT DINNER WITH ROMULO AND SOLICITOR
GENERAL MENDOZA. ROMULO TOOK OCCASION TO MAKE LENGTHY
PRESENTATION OF PHILIPPINE HUMAN RIGHTS CASES -- E.G.
AVERAGE FILIPINO PUTS FOOD, WHICH MARCOS GOVERNMENT PRO-
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VIDES, AHEAD OF CIVIL LIBERTIES; LOPEZ' WERE VIOLENTLY
ANTI-AMERICAN WHEN THEY CONTROLLED NEWSPAPERS, BUT IN
EXILE HAVE SUDDENLY BECOME PRO-AMERICAN IN ATTEMPT TO
FOOL U.S. LIBERALS; GOP GETS NO CREDIT FOR AREAS WHERE ITS
RECORD IS EXTREMELY PRAISEWORTHY SUCH AS TREATMENT OF
VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, ETC. ROMULO DEFENDED RECENT
ELECTIONS. CONCERNING REFERENCE IN MARCOS-MONDALE JOINT

STATEMENT TO "MUTUAL BENEFIT" OF BASES, ROMULO AT ONE POINT SAID MARCOS HAD OVERRIDDEN OPPOSITION OF MILITARY AND CABINET; LATER ROMULO SAID "MAJORITY OF CABINET" IMPLYING HE AMONG THE MORE FARSIGHTED MINORITY.

2. ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS -- ONE SUCCESS, ONE LIKELY POSTPONEMENT (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

TEXTILES: AT THE END OF A FINAL ALL NIGHT SESSION IN BAGUIO, U.S. AND PHILIPPINE TEXTILE NEGOTIATING TEAMS REACHED AGREEMENT ON A NEW MULTIYEAR ACCORD, RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 1978. IN A TELEPHONE CALL TO EB, OUR TEAM REPORTED THAT THE AGREEMENT GAVE A GREAT DEAL OF WHAT THE GOP ASKED FOR (IN THE SIZE OF PRODUCT EXPORT QUOTAS TO THE U.S.) HOWEVER, TO ACCOMMODATE THESE "LARGE NUMBERS", THE QUOTAS WILL BE "INFLEXIBLE" (PRESUMABLY ALLOWING FOR NO ADJUSTMENT DURING THE LIFE OF THE AGREEMENT). THE OUTCOME CAME AS A PLEASANT SURPRISE. EARLIER REPORTING FROM MANILA, AND EXPECTATIONS WITHIN EB BEFORE THE U.S. TEAM DEPARTED, POINTED TO INITIAL, INCONCLUSIVE TALKS, FOLLOWED BY A SECOND ROUND LATER THIS YEAR.

CIVIL AVIATION: THE USG PROPOSAL FOR FORMAL CIVIL AVIATION NEGOTIATIONS IN WASHINGTON, JUNE 26 WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO BE DEFERRED PENDING CONCLUSION OF A MARCOS-ORDERED REVIEW OF PHILIPPINE NATIONAL AVIATION POLICY.
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IN THE MEANTIME, ALL PHILIPPINE AIR NEGOTIATIONS ARE IN ABEYANCE, AND IT NOW APPEARS INCREASINLY UNLIKELY THAT A NEW AVIATION POLICY WILL EMERGE IN TIME FOR THE GOP TO KEEP THE JUNE DATE.

3. PLEASE NOTE FOR EA ONLY CAPTION.
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